2011 Flooding Event Response Efforts by DEQ Public Water Supply Program





Dusti Lowndes
MT DEQ PWS program

Montana Hydrology Workshop Aug. 28, 2012

What is a Public Water Supply?

- A water system that serves 15 connections or 25 people at least 60 days out of the year.
- Types and components vary
- Three classifications
- Certified operators may be required
- Monitoring requirements
- DEQ PWS is the regulatory agency

Presentation Objectives

- Seasonal Background Information
- Flood Event Timeline
- Response Efforts
- Impacts to Water and Wastewater Systems
- Recovery and Mitigation Efforts
- Second Disaster Strikes July 1

Seasonal Background Information

Conditions Contributing to Major Flooding

Which damaged homes, personal property and public infrastructure include:

- saturated soil conditions
- record snowfall
- record high water equivalent in the winter snowpack
- lack of available surface storage
- log and debris jams along rivers and tributaries
- torrential rainfall (8-10" in some areas)

"Flooding is going to get worse before it gets better" – Gov. Schweitzer in late May 2011 The Governor's requested and President Barrack Obama approved a Presidential Declaration of a Federal Major Disaster/ Emergency for Montana which allowed for federal assistance under the federal response plan.

June 9th - The estimated damage total was \$8,601,039 and the state and local share of that amount \$2,150,260.

Because this was an ongoing event, damage estimates went up and the number impacted of counties, local and tribal jurisdictions increased.

These totals only represent damage to <u>public infrastructure</u>. Local emergency managers were still collecting information about losses incurred by individuals. Individual Assistance was added and approved August 23rd.

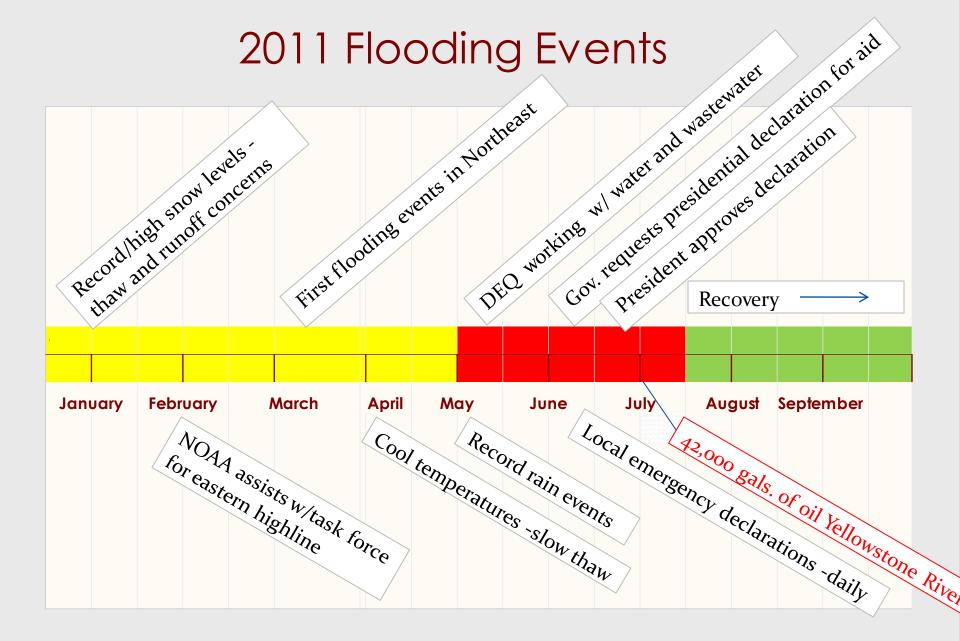
Statements made in the Governor's request of Federal Assistance-

Crow Reservation

- Flooding resulted in the loss of water and sewer systems and the evacuation and sheltering of approximately 300 people.
- During the initial stages of the flood, Interstate 90 was closed for approximately 70 miles from May 22nd to May 26th. Many secondary roads and bridges were damaged and closed limiting access to many of the affected areas.
- In addition, the Crow Indian Hospital operated by the U.S. Public Health Service and a long-term care center operated by the tribe have been closed. Patients and residents were evacuated to Billings, 60 miles away.
- As damage assessments are being conducted and residents are returning home, approximately 50 individuals are still sheltered and the hospital and long-term care center are still closed.
- The community water supply is under a boil order and sewage systems supporting several major facilities, including the hospital, are inoperable.
- In its role as primary agency for ESF6, DPHHS has coordinated with the ARC and VOAD.
- Resource requests for Crow agency have included: sheltering/feeding for 300 individuals; a separate feeding request for another 300 individuals throughout the reservation unable to leave their area due to road damage; and miscellaneous items such as formula, diapers, and other care items.
- Unfortunately, the area expects impact from additional rainfall and snow melt over the next three to four weeks that may flood the area again.

(Precipitation attachment to the letter from Gov. Schweiter to the President

yesterday)					
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			Date		Year of Previous
Station	Record Type	New Record	(May)	Previous Record	Record
Billings	High Daily Precip	1.08	9	0.80	1986
Billings	High Daily Precip	1.51	10	0.90	1967
Glasgow	High Daily Precip	0.91	10	0.80	1914
Miles City	High Daily Precip	2.22	10	0.90	1904
Miles City	High Daily Precip	0.51	18	0.43	1896
Miles City	High Daily Precip	1.04	21	0.70	1957
Billings	High Daily Precip	3.12*	24	1.14	1939
	Highest 24-hr Precip	3.12	24	2.91	June 8, 1997
Dillon	High Daily Precip	0.85	24	0.63	1953
Livingston	High Daily Precip	2.08	24	1.12	2009
Billings	High month prec	9.54		7.71	May 1981
Powderville	High month prec	10.40		7.72	July 1993
Ekalaka	High May precip	11.71		9.03	July 1993
Glasgow	High May precip	6.97		6.61	2007
Hysham	High May precip	7.66		6.73	1977
Miles City	High May precip	8.84		6.81	1978



Milk River Basin

"Milk River rose to record levels caused by the rapid snowmelt of up to 800% of normal winter snowfall."

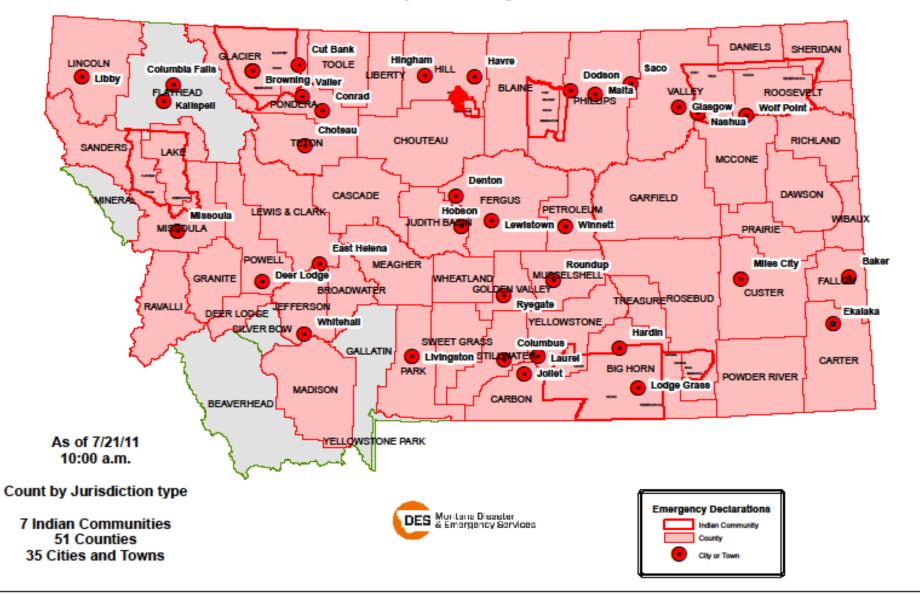
Flooding TASK FORCE stood up with NOAA

Response Efforts



Flood Declarations 2011

Tribal, County and City or Town Locally Declared Emergencies



Partner Agency Efforts

- **DES:** SECC -state emergency coordination center
 - Rescue missions, civil air patrol photos, resource requests
 - Activated several Emergency Support Functions (ESF) such as #6 Mass Care and ESF #8 Public Health & Medical Services
 - WEB EOC for state wide situational awareness
- National Guard mobilized 98 soldiers and 44 vehicles for assistance and traffic control in Roundup and Crow Reservation
- EPA Montana Tribal Water and Wastewater Systems
- DHS
 - Critical Infrastructure Protection
 - FEMA: PDA teams conducting disaster assessments
 - Processing of claims for federal assistance
- **DPHHS**_-stood up dept. incident command structure to support ESF #6 Mass Care and ESF#8 Public Health for the SECC



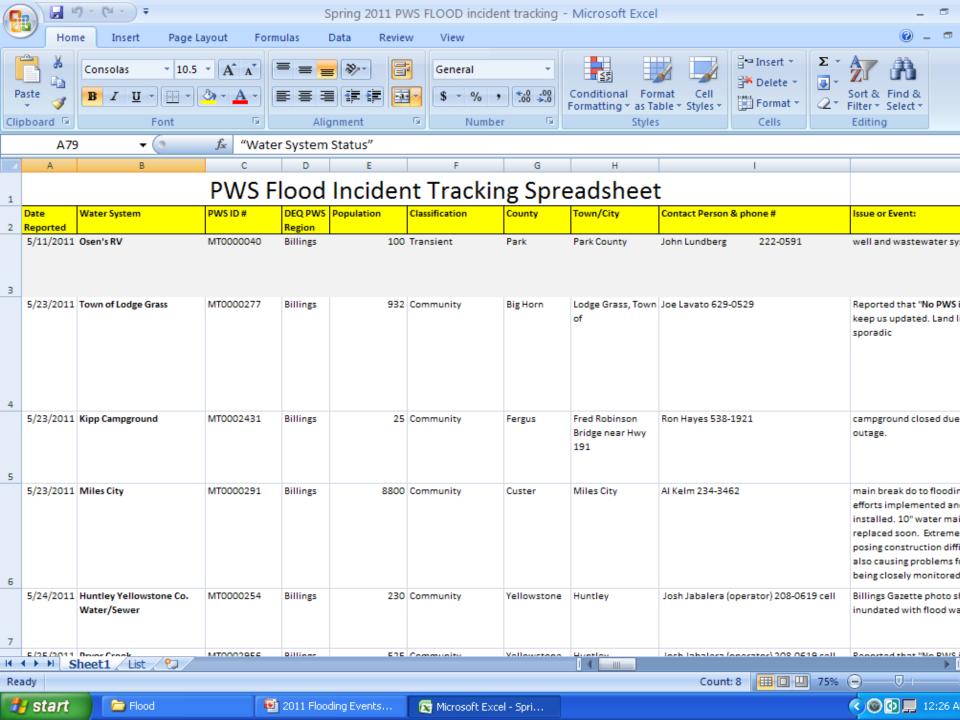
DEQ's Response Efforts

- Duty Officer (DO) Program 24/7
- Web EOC (emergency operations center) at State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC)
- Other programs Waste & Underground Tank Management Bureau, Water Protection Bureau, Remediation Division, & Source Water Protection (produced septic info. and working on private well info.)
- DEQ PIOs Lisa Peterson & Mary Ann Dunwell (remediation)
 - Public outreach
- Web page flood help info.
 - Front page of DEQ site: http://deq.mt.gov/default.mcpx
 - SecureWater site: http://deq.mt.gov/wqinfo/pws/security/default.mcpx
 - SHARENET for department staff: http://deq.sharepoint.mt.gov/default.aspx
 - MT WARN site: www.mtwarn.org

DEQ PWS Program Efforts

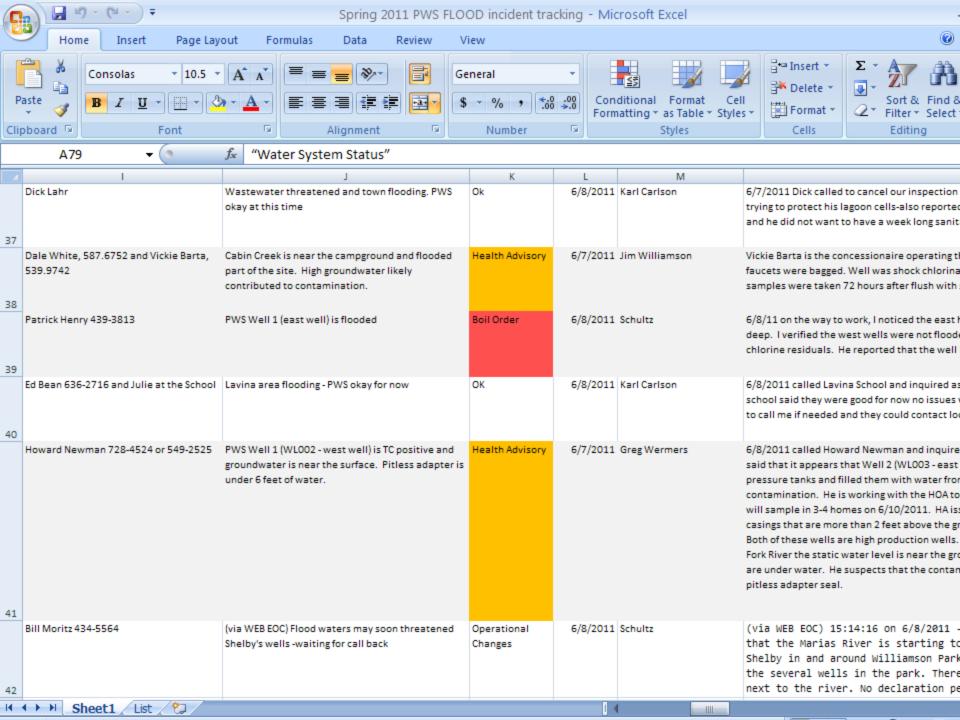
- Technical and compliance assistance site visits, disinfection methods, sampling, advisories, operational recommendations...
- Sharing info. and status reports "daily" with partner agencies, SECC through state Web EOC, and dept. Intranet for DEQ programs.
- Daily (or as necessary) updates to program staff and NTK programs ...also held two webinars and several conference calls for coordination efforts.

Tracking Sheet – for 65 systems during flooding events



PWS Tracking Sheet... Water System Status

- **Ok** no known problems at this time
- **Shut Down** Not in operation
- Boil Order- Dept. or system has issued a boil order
- Health Advisory- Dept. or system has issued a health advisory
- Partial Outage part of the system is unavailable or isolated
- **Threatened** structurally, operationally, or environmentally there is an known threat to the system
- Operational Changes- something about the way the system normally operates has changed



SECC – WEB EOC postings

Attached is the June 24, 2011 Public Water Supply status spreadsheet(s) for systems that DEQ PWS and Montana's EPA office (for Indian Nations' Water and Wastewater Systems) have contacted or are providing technical assistance for. Access tabs for each DEQ and EPA sheet are at the bottom of the spreadsheet. Please review the attached sheets for system status including advisories, threatened and operational changes.

Boil Order (BO) due to flooding:

Lewis & Clark Co. - Valley Vista Mobile Home Park Valley Co. - Cherry Creek WUA Glasgow Garfield Co. - Hell Creek State Park

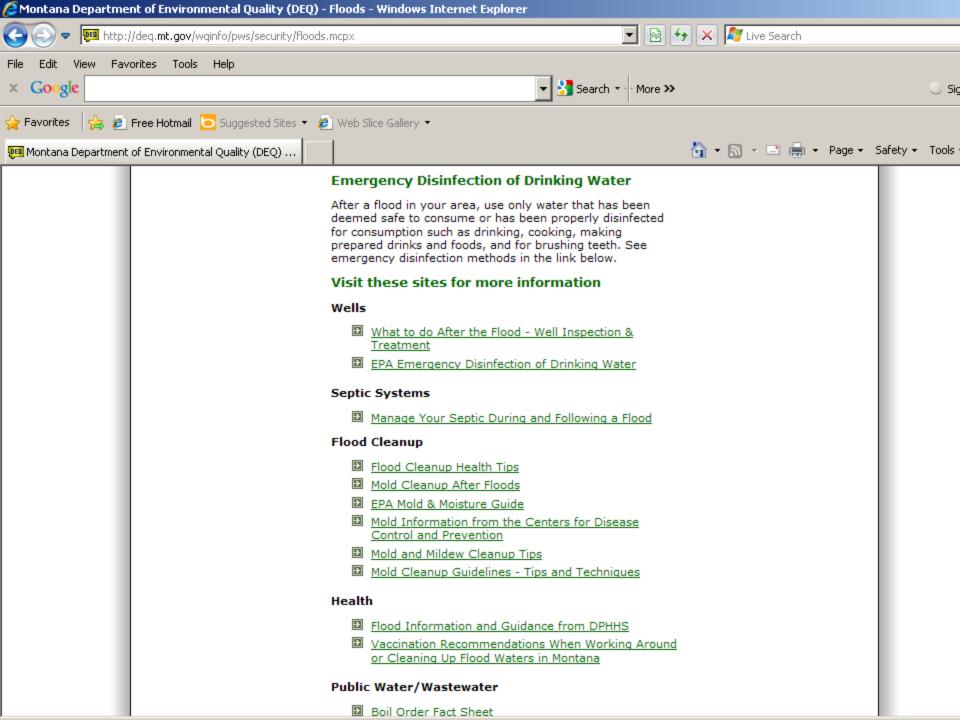
Health Advisories (HA) due to flooding:

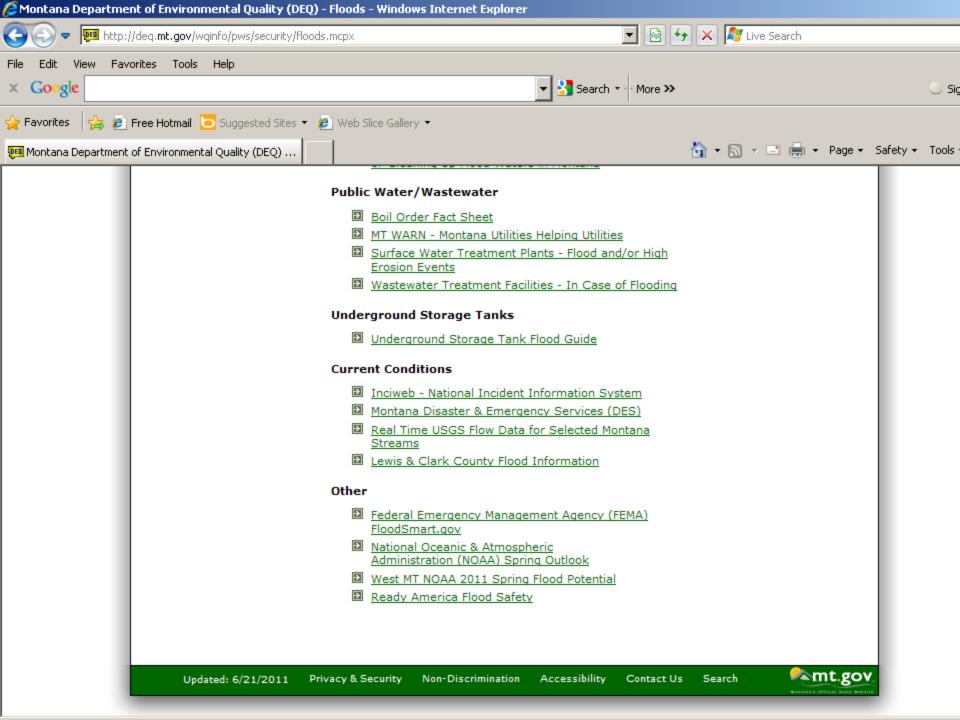
Jefferson Co. - Hangman's Tree (Gruber Estates)
Missoula Co. - Renea's Court
Musselshell Co.- Roundup
Park Co. - Osen's RV
Lewis & Clark Co. - Kims Marina
Missoula Co. - Sunny Meadows

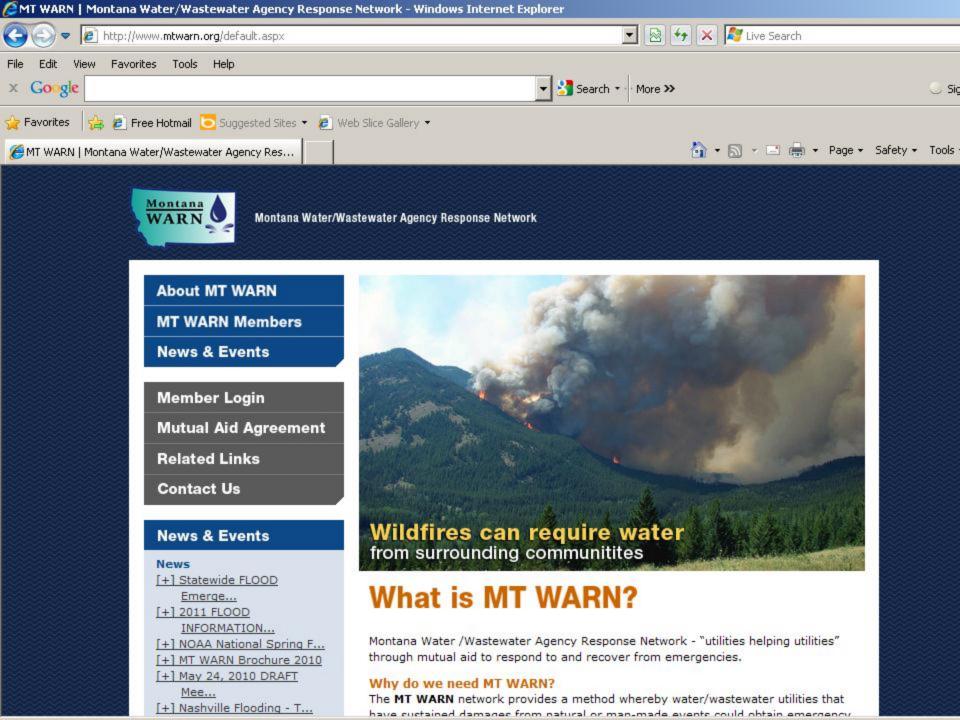
"The DEQ is hoping, as a responding agency, you will find this public water supply information helpful in your response efforts but this attached document is not intended for public release."











Impacts to Water and Wastewater Systems

Wastewater Impacts

- Lift stations shutting down
- Broken collection lines
- Excess influent flows resulting in the need to divert to holding areas
- Unable to provide any treatment due to high flows.
- Diverting wastewater around treatment to prevent washing sludge to river/creek,
- By-passing primary treatment,
- Erosion of dike walls
- Flooded manholes and lift stations...

Permitted Wastewater Systems

- Water Protection Bureau (WPB) worked with 91 systems that were affected in some manner.
- No violation letters issued to facilities for exceeding permit parameters that were directed related to the flooding events. However, violation letters were issued to facilities that failed to report information or failed to provide an explanation related to a reporting problems.
- WPB -completed both a review of all effluent monitoring exceedances and permit conditions (SSOs, pipe breaks, manhole overflows, dike erosions, etc). The cities and towns were responsive and provided information that clarified their unique situations during the flooding. WPB compliance considered the flooding issues completed for 2011 in October of that year.

WPB - via Kari Smith

- Appreciates PWS asking about wastewater upon contacting systems
- Not just discharge should be considered as a problem but also the man holes that are over flowing – the systems need to make sure their county sanitarians are aware of sewer issues.
- Permitted systems should continue to monitor the best they can and submit reports if they cannot then they should be reporting why.
- Notifying WPB gives the system somewhat of a "get out of Jail card" in their compliance concerns.
- If it is not working the way it is suppose to then it is non compliant.
- Permitted or not, WPB will help and pass to right person.
- WPB is also dealing with feed lots, construction sites, and treatment backwash pools.

Drinking Water Impacts

- Threatened treatment plants
- Wells were flooded
- Rise in Ground Water caused increased total coliform issues and violations
- Distribution and main line breaks
- Infiltrations galleries were inundated with flood water
- Operations were adjusted to mitigate compromised facilities

Musselshell River Basin

Statement in the request of Federal Assistance-

"The flooding caused substantial damage to the municipal water system in Roundup and required the state to assist with deploying potable water trucks as well as bottled water to take care of essential needs of the residents. In addition, portable shower units and hand wash stations have been deployed to assist with their immediate needs while local officials attempt to repair the water system and allow it to resume to safe capacities."

Roundup Timeline

- 5/26-Initial call ...Town Flooding
- 5/27-Water system compromised
- 5/28-Operating on restrictions-pumping out plant
- 5/30-Low pressure, low tank... need to pump water
- 5/30-Pumping on self-issued boil order
- 5/31 –Emergency boil order issued by Department
- 6/8-Site visit conducted
- 6/8-Town flooding again, dikes around plant held
 15 days and conditions were not better















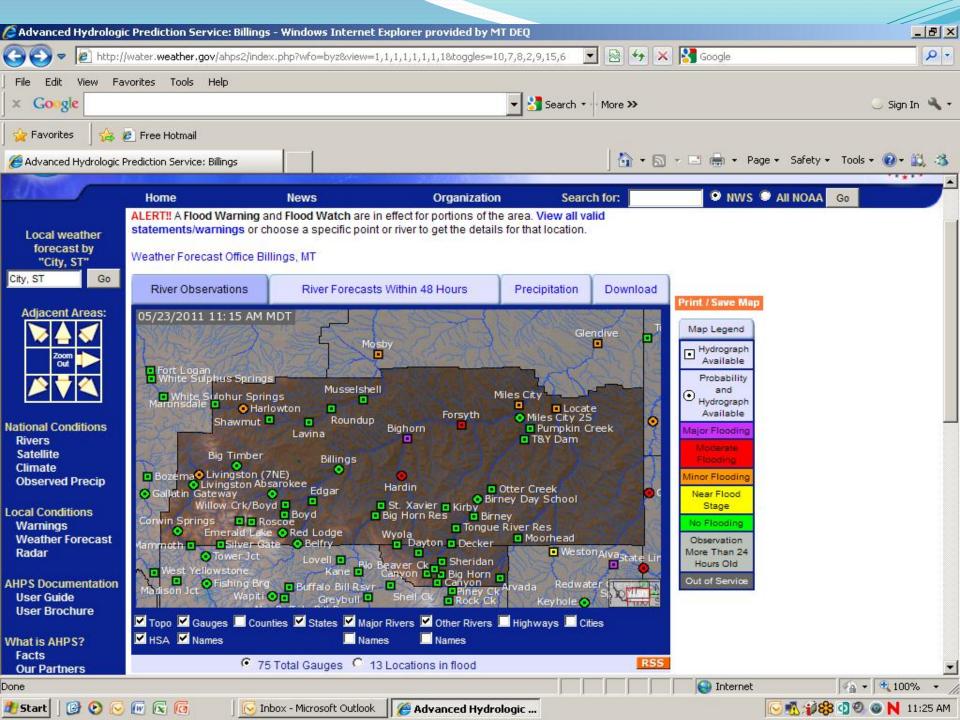
Campground



Campground –June 2011



Yellowstone River Basin



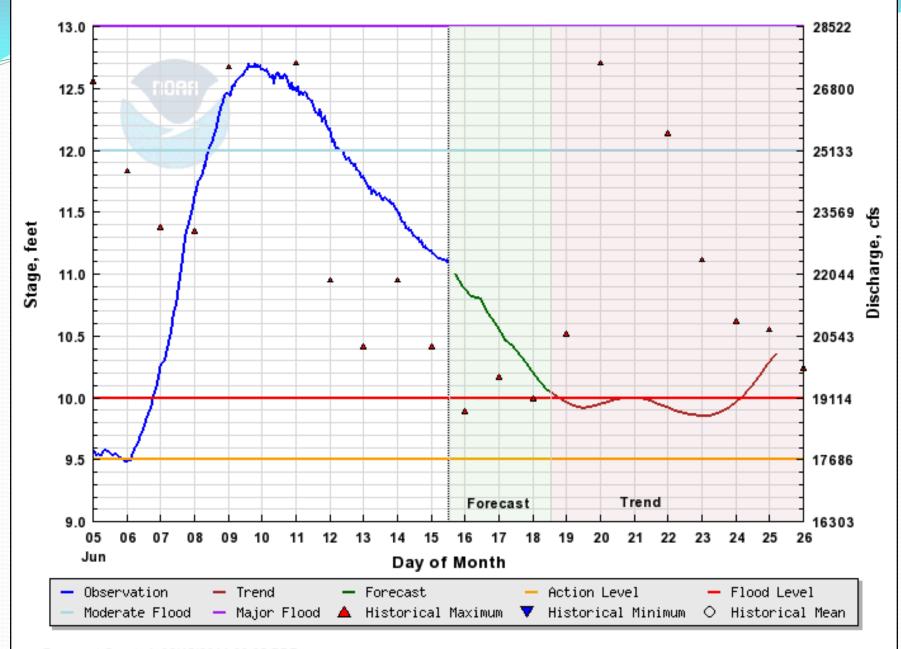
Yellowstone River

- Mile City one of two transmission mains, under the river, broke. Water conservation efforts used.
- Laurel refinery assisted in sand bagging around the treatment plant and also gave money to system for mitigation expenses.

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Clarkfork River Basin

CLARK FORK - ABOVE MISSOULA (ABOM8)



Forecast Created: 06/15/2011 09:05 PDT Plot Created: 06/15/2011 01:12 PDT





Miscellaneous ... areas







Subdivision near Helena



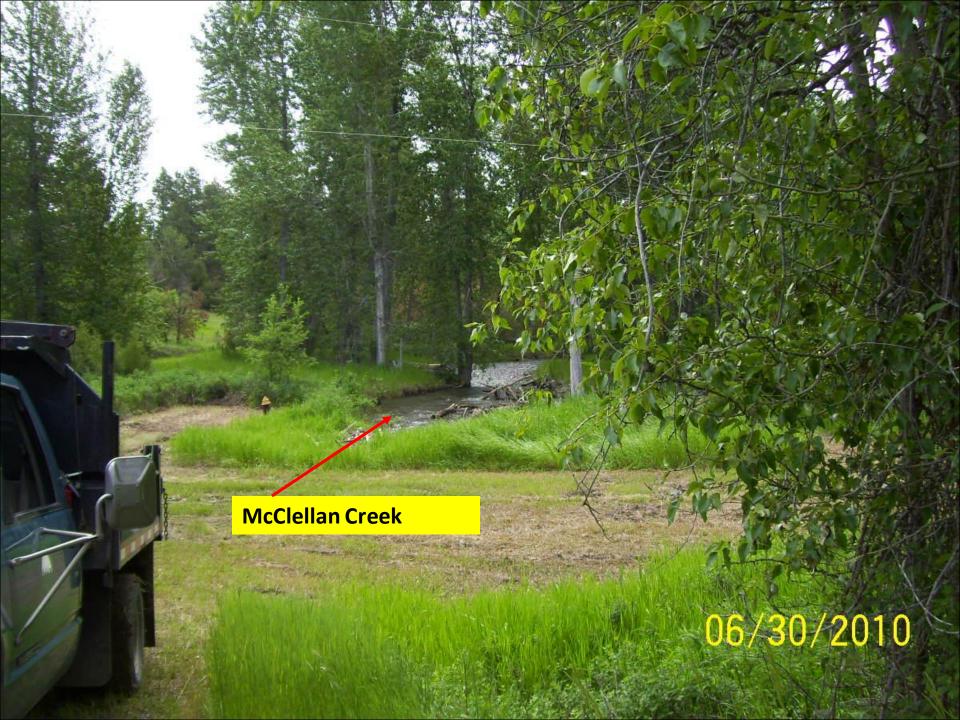


East Helena











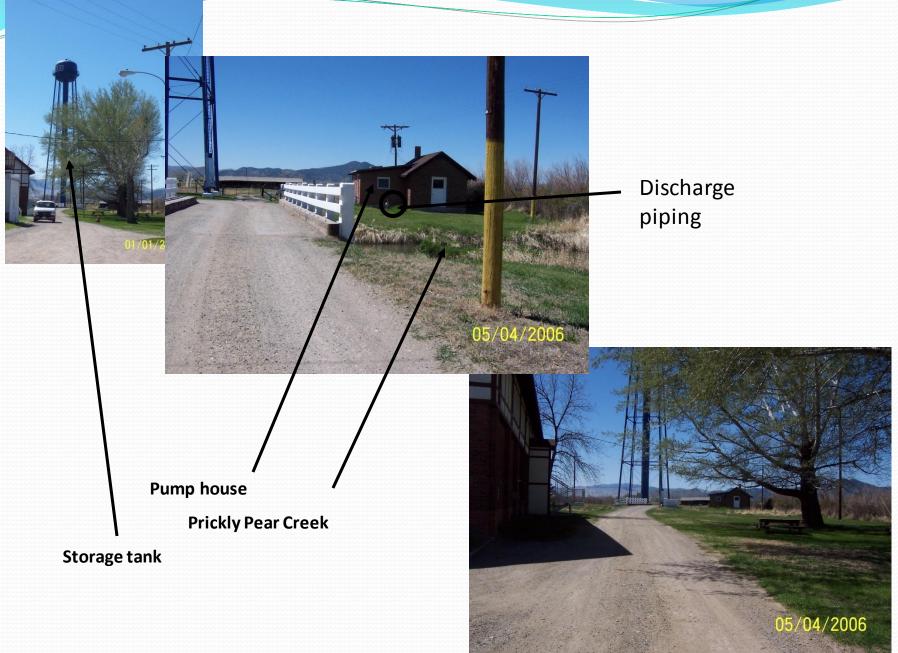






MT Law Enforcement Academy

System view from shop area (photos 2006)





Mobile Home Park near Helena



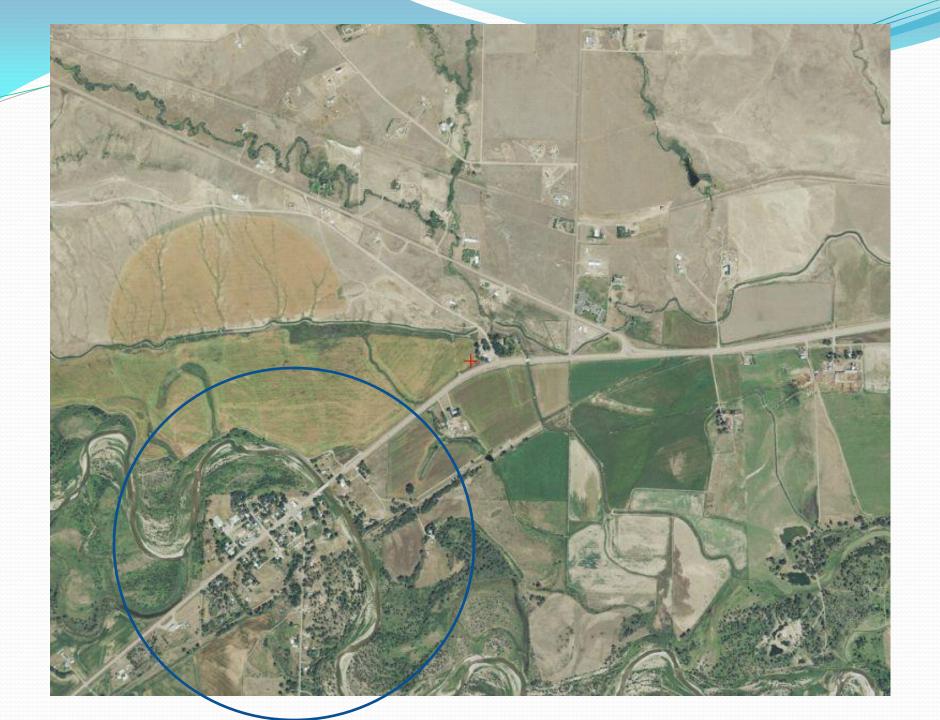
Shelby







Sun River



Private Well Calls

- Directed them to their County Health Departments for additional assistance
- Made them aware of the flood page on Secure Water site which has well and septic information that SWP provided.
- Assisted in locating additional bacteriological sample bottles and assisted county sanitarians.

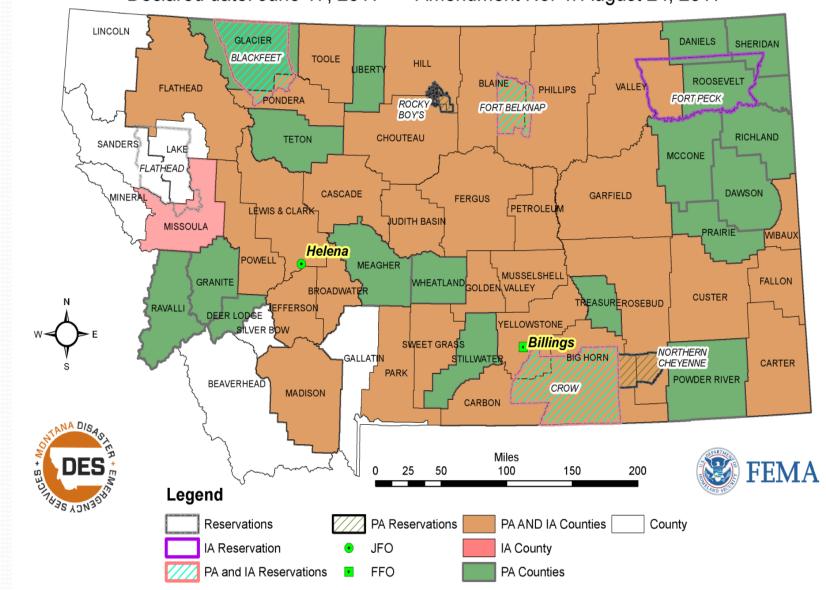
Recovery and Mitigation Efforts

FEMA

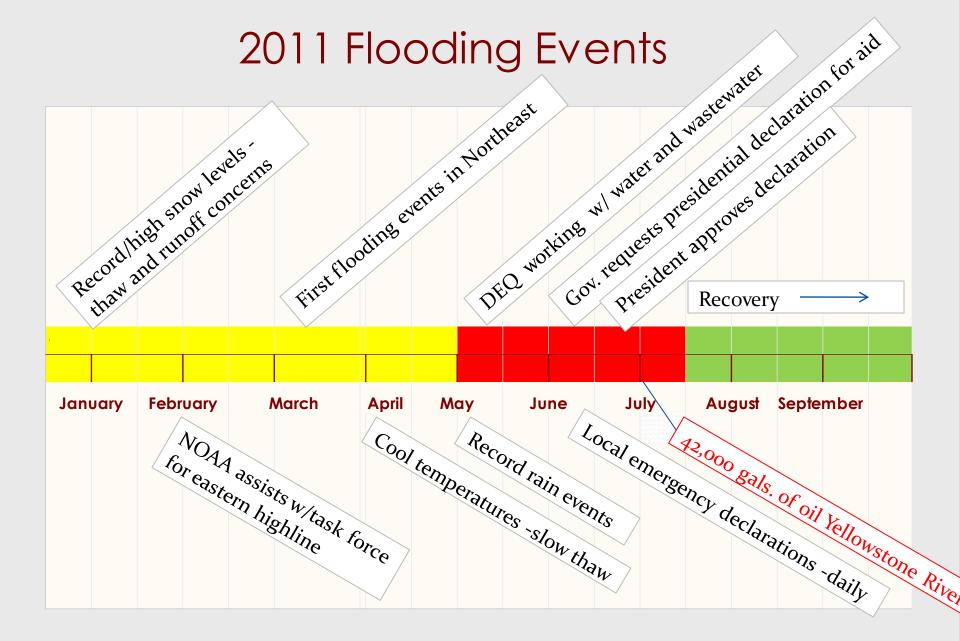
- Individual Assistance was approved and FEMA set up offices throughout the state to assist individuals in getting assistance.
- The Public Assistance for publicly owned facilities had a damage cost estimate of over \$44,000,000
- Some projects and recoveries are still occurring boxes and boxes of documentation at DES office.

FEMA-1996-DR-MT PA and IA Declared Counties/Reservations

Declared date: June 17, 2011 Amendment No. 4: August 24, 2011



Second Disaster Strikes – July 1

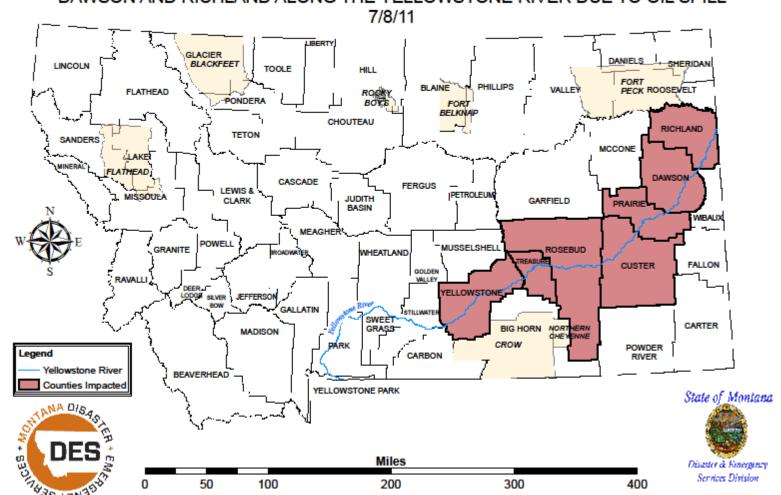


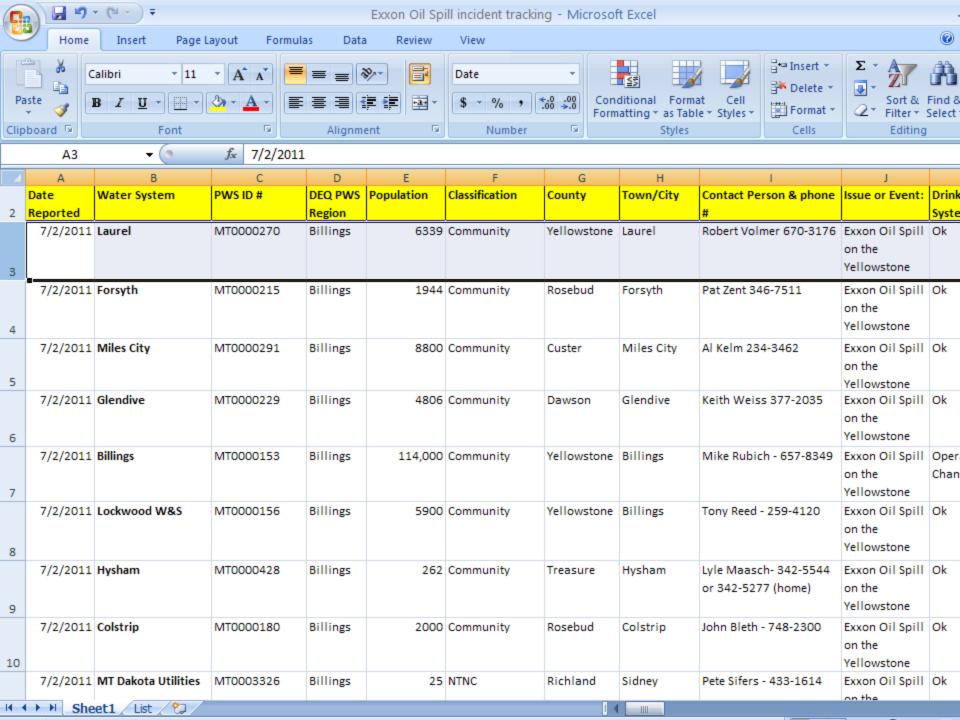
EXXON Oil Spill

- July 1, 2011: 42,000 gallons of oil was spilled from a broken pipe that was buried under the Yellowstone River.
- The old pipe (6' below the river bed which became exposed) is still in place but a new pipe which is in service was drilled and placed ~40-70' below the river bed.

Executive Order NO. 09-2011

EXECUTIVE ORDER PROCLAIMING AN EMERGENCY TO EXIST IN THE COUNTIES OF YELLOWSTONE, TREASURE, ROSEBUD, CUSTER, PRAIRIE, DAWSON AND RICHLAND ALONG THE YELLOWSTONE RIVER DUE TO OIL SPILL





Oil plume PWS awareness

- Systems appreciated our outreach and notification
- Several systems had already talked to each other
- Some intakes are shut down at night anyway
- A few systems keep intakes closed until plume passed
- Inquired about the depth of intakes
- Encouraged them to take advantage of additional sampling





Multi-tasking to a new level!



Went to Great Lengths to Assist!

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

